

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SWF-02 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 NEA-14

RSC-01 OIC-04 AGR-20 AID-20 EB-12 COME-00 TRSE-00 H-03

PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 DRC-01 AS-01 /175 W

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FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7225

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, OCON

SUBJ: WRC - 9/23-28 SUMMARY OF THIRD PREPCOM

PASS TO EMILIO Q. DADDAIRO, US CONGRESS, OFFICE OF TECHNOLOGY
ASSESSMENT

PREPARED BY J.B. CORDARO, OFFICE OF TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT

1. MESSAGE CONTAINS INFORMATION OF GENERAL INTEREST TO OTA
FOOD ASSESSMENT ACTIVITIES AND SPECIFIC COMMENTS ON OTA PREPA-
RATION OF ASSESSMENT OF FOOD, NUTRITION, AND AGRICULTURE INFORMA-
TION SYSTEM REPORT.
 2. INITIAL SESSIONS DEVOTED TO PROCEDURAL MATTERS ON AGENDA
ITEMS AND DISCUSSION TIME. DOCUMENTS USED AS BASIS FOR THESE
DISCUSSIONS SENT DIRECTLY TO CATON. THESE INCLUDED WORLD FOOD
PROBLEM: PROPOSALS FOR NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ACTION AND
REVISED WORLD FOOD ASSESSMENT. CATON SHOULD FIND THESE DOCUMENTS
USEFUL BACKGROUND RESOURCES FOR OTA DRAFT ASSESSMENT REPORT.
 3. REVISED WORLD FOOD ASSESSMENT DOCUMENT DISCUSSED AND CRITIQUED
BY DELEGATES. DESPITE SOME DELEGATE DIFFERENCES ON CONCLUSIONS
REGARDING EXTENT OF FUTURE WORLD FOOD IMBALANCES, IT HAS BEEN
GENERALLY AGREED THAT DOCUMENT SERVES ADEQUATE PURPOSE FOR PLANNING
NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ACTIONS. DIFFERING
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CONCLUSIONS ARISE FROM VARIOUS WEIGHTS PLACED ON SUCH FACTOR AS

INCOME GROWTH, CHANGES IN INCOME DISTRIBUTION PATTERNS, AND NUTRITION LEVELS.

4. PROGRESS REPORTS MADE BY SECRETARY GENERAL MAREI AND AMBASSADOR KAHN, WHO CHAIRED PRE PREPCOM, MADE SUMMARY REPORT OF THIS MEETING.

A. ACCORDING TO MAREI, WORLD IS CURRENTLY IN DIFFICULT SITUATION RE FOOD. BELIEVES BOLD NEW INITIATIVES REQUIRED BY NATIONS OF THE WORLD TO AVERT SERIOUS SOCIAL AND POLITICAL PROBLEMS. AS EXAMPLES OF CONTINUING FOOD CRISES, MAREI CITED CURRENT WORSENING OF GRAIN PRODUCTION OUTLOOK FOR THIS YEAR, UNCERTAINTY OF ASIAN RICE CROP, AND EXPECTED BAD WEATHER.

B. MAREI STRESSED THE NEED FOR AN INTEGRATED APPROACH OF ALL EFFORTS BEING MADE TO SOLVE WORLD FOOD PROBLEM. SUGGESTED INTEGRATION NEEDS TO BE BUILT ON 3 PILLARS: (1) INCREASING WORLD FOOD PRODUCTION; (2) IMPROVING FOOD SECURITY AND (3) NUTRITION. (SUGGEST CATON REVIEW DETAILS IF THESE POINTS IN ABOVE NOTED DOCUMENTS).

C. MAREI EMPHASIZED CRITICAL NEED FOR VIABLE FOLLOW-UP MECHANISM TO CARRY OUT AND MONITOR RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY WFC. DOES NOT FEEL EXISTING ORGANIZATION AND STRUCTURE CAN ACCOMPLISH THIS.

D. KAHN'S SUMMARY UNDERScored MOST OF MAREI'S POINTS, AND INCLUDED COMMENT ON JAPANESE PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH WORLD-WIDE INFORMATION SYSTEM ON FOOD AND AGRICULTURE INFORMATION SITUATION. GENERAL PROPOSAL BY JAPANESE IS:

BEGIN QUOTE 2. /OBJECTIVES./ THIS INFORMATION SYSTEM AIMS AT (A) IDENTIFYING COUNTRIES OR REGIONS WHERE ACUTE FOOD SHORTAGES ARE THOUGHT TO BE IMMINENT; (B) MONITORING WORLD FOOD SUPPLY-DEMAND CONDITIONS SO AS TO ENABLE GOVERNMENTS TO TAKE TIMELY AND APPROPRIATE MEASURES. THE SYSTEM WOULD, IN ADDITION TO MEETING THESE OBJECTIVES, CONTRIBUTE TO THE EFFECTIVE FUNCTIONING OF THE PROPOSED "UNDERTAKING ON WORLD FOOD SECURITY."

3. /CONTENTS OF THE INFORMATION./ THE INFORMATION TO TBE COVERED UNCLASSIFIED

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UNDER THE PROPOSED SYSTEM SHOULD INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING POINTS WITH REGARD TO WHEAT, MAJOR COARSE GRAINS, RICE, SOYBEANS AND MAJOR LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS.

A) THE CURRENT SITUATION, INCLUDING THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE OF PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION, IMPORTS AND EXPORTS AND STOCKS OF THE ITEMS MENTIONED ABOVE;

B) THE SHORT--TERM PROSPECTS FOR THE FOLLOWING SEASON AS REGARDS THE WORLD IMPORT REQUIREMENTS AND EXPORT AVAILABILITIES OF THESE ITEMS;

C) VARIOUS ELEMENTS WHICH WILL AFFECT THE SUPPLY AND DEMAND SITUATION OF THESE ITEMS, SUCH AS THE CURRENT WEATHER CONDITIONS AND FORECASTS, THE AVAILABILITY OF AGRICULTURAL INPUTS INCLUDING FERTILIZERS AND PESTICIDES, FLUCTUATIONS IN THE PRICES OF THESE ITEMS, FOOD AID, AND GOVERNMENT POLICY CHANGES IN PRODUCTION, STOCK HOLDING AND TRADE.

4. WAYS AND MEANS OF COLLECTING AND DISSEMINATING INFORMATION.

ALL AVAILABLE INFORMATION SHOULD BE COLLECTED, INCLUDING REPORTS FROM GOVERNMENTS ADHERING TO THIS SYSTEM, REPORTS FROM THE FIELD OFFICES OF UN AGENCIES CONCERNED SUCH AS FAO, UNDP AND WFP, AND VARIOUS NEWS AND OTHER REPORTS. IN THIS CONNECTION, GOVERNMENTS ADHERING TO THE SYSTEM ARE REQUESTED TO SUBMIT INFORMATION AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE TIME.

THE SECRETARIAT SHOULD ANALYZE THE INFORMATION THUS COLLECTED, AND, AFTER DIGESTING IT, DISSEMINATE IT TO GOVERNMENTS IN THE FORM OF A QUARTERLY (OR IF NECESSARY MONTHLY) BULLETIN, WHICH WILL GIVE A COMPREHENSIVE PICTURE OF THE WORLD FOOD SITUATION AND FUTURE PROSPECTS IN LINE WITH THE OBJECTIVES DESCRIBED ABOVE. GOVERNMENTS COULD SUBMIT ANY COMMENT ON COUNTRY DATA CONCERNED, OF WHICH THE SECRETARIAT SHOULD TAKE NOTE IN PREPARING SUBSEQUENT REPORTS.

THE INFORMATION COULD BE DISSEMINATED TO MEMBERS OF THE SYSTEM ON A CONFIDENTIAL BASIS FOR A CERTAIN PERIOD WHEN THE GOVERNMENT WHICH SUBMITS THE INFORMATION CONCERNED SO REQUESTS.

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5. /GOVERNMENTS ADHERING TO THE SYSTEM./ GOVERNMENTS ADHERING TO THE SYSTEM WILL BE THE MEMBER GOVERNMENTS OF UN FAO AND IWC. INTERESTED GOVERNMENTS WHO WISH TO ADHERE TO THE SYSTEM SHOULD NOTIFY THEIR INTENTIONS TO THE SECRETARIAT. (SEE 6 BELOW)

6. /THE SECRETARIAT./ A UNIT OR DIVISION IN CHARGE OF THIS SYSTEM SHOULD BE ESTABLISHED WITHIN THE FAO SECRETARIAT. THIS UNIT SHOULD ESTABLISH CLOSE WORKING RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE SECRETARIATS OF OTHER INTERNATIONAL AND NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS WHICH ARE ENGAGED IN COLLECTING AND ANALYSING DATA ON THESE MATTERS. END QUOTE

5. JAPANESE PROPOSAL SUPPORTED IN PRINCIPLE BY MOST NATIONS. LIKELY THAT PROPOSAL WILL BE MADE AGENDA ITEM FOR DISCUSSION

WFC. ACCORDNGLY, OTA WORK TAKES ON ADDED SIGNIFICANCE TO WFC
AND USEFULNESS TO US DELEGATION. US COORDINATOR STAFF
BRIEFED ON OTA EFFORTS AND LOOK FORWARD TO OTA INPUT TO EXTENT
USEFUL FOR ESTABLISHING US POSITION ON SPECIFICS OF PROPOSAL.

6. SPECIFIC COMMENTS ON THIS ITEM WILL BE FORWARDED AFTER
FURTHER DISCUSSIONS WITH JAPANESE AND OTHER DELEGATES. HIGH
DEGREE OF INTEREST AMONG GOVERNMENTS FOR IMPROVED
INFORMATION SYSTEM. END.BEAUDRY

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED ABOVE ADDRESSEE.

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Message Attributes

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Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DOCUMENTS, MEETINGS, FOOD ASSISTANCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 OCT 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974ROME13520
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740278-0671
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741079/aaaacpntn.tel
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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30 JUN 2005

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TAGS: EAGR, OCON
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Type: TE
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